

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
STATE OF IOWA COMMISSION OF ELDER AFFAIRS
Urbandale Public Library
January 9, 2003**

Present: Harold Davis
Jane Paulsen
Hazel Chuck
Craig Downing
Clemmie Hightower
Yogesh Shah
Rep. David Johnson
Rep. Todd Taylor
Sen. Joe Bolkom

Absent: J. Russell Lowe
Sen. Sheldon Rittmer

Others present: Mark Haverland, Greg Anliker, Mary Ann Young, Sherry James, Joel Wulf, Nicki Stajcar, Judy White, Dick Harmon, Mardi Barnes, Nancy Nichols.

Call to Order

Chairperson Harold Davis called the regular business meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The recording secretary conducted roll call. The following members answered roll call: Harold Davis, Jane Paulsen, Hazel Chuck, Craig Downing, Clemmie Hightower, Yogesh Shah, Rep. David Johnson, Rep. Todd Taylor, Senator Joe Bolkom. A quorum was present.

Agenda

Chairman Davis determined the agenda be approved as written and presented.

Minutes

Action: Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Paulsen seconded, the minutes of the October 8, 2002 State of Iowa Commissioners of Elder Affairs be approved as written. All members present voted "aye".

Director's Report

- ♦ Mark reported he has been in conversation with Chuck Palmer regarding the Milbank Foundation. The level of care issues within Assisted Living Programs has been an issue the past several months as ALP's continue to increase in number. The DIA and DEA are working to develop legislation that would regulate the ALP's. The Milbank project would sponsor

representatives from other states coming to Iowa and discussing what they have accomplished in their states regarding ALP's. The date for this state-to-state meeting has tentatively been scheduled for April/May.

- ◆ Mark reported there has been two new employees join the DEA. Richard Harmon will be working with Judy White and the case management program. He will be traveling to the AAA's to assist with their caseloads. Dick most recently worked at the Iowa Department of Public Health, Bureau of EMS. Shirley Taylor was hired as a secretary/receptionist. She comes to DEA from the Department of Workforce Development and worked many years for the Department of Cultural Affairs.
- ◆ Mark reported the theme for National Older American's month for May, 2003 is "What We Do Makes a Difference." He reported Sherry would be sending some News Bulletins to the media for this special recognition.
- ◆ Nicki Stajcar reported the Annual Governor's Conference on Aging is scheduled for May 19 & 20 at the University Park Holiday Inn. Governor Vilsack has been asked to attend the noon luncheon on Monday and sign the Proclamation announcing May as Older American's Month in Iowa. The theme for this year's conference is "Redefining Aging – Revving Up for the Ride". The main speaker is a senior citizen that is very active and bikes, etc. We will also be honoring the Centenarians in attendance as well as the Shining Stars. Mark reported he is looking into having the main speakers be on closed caption. He is also working with the minority groups to encourage the senior citizens of immigrants and foreign populations to attend.
- ◆ Mary Ann Young reported on the Senior Internship Program (SIP). She reported the program has been restructured and there are currently four area agencies contracted with DEA for the SIP program. The Department of Labor has a requirement to place at least 32 people in the unsubsidized employment in the fiscal year. As of November, 25 people have been placed so the department is well on their way to reaching the requirement by June 30, 2003. There is much training involved and they have had cooperation with the Iowa Workforce Development with the placements.
- ◆ Mark reported the National Council on Aging convention is in Chicago this year on March 13-16. He will put in a request to attend this convention.
- ◆ Greg gave an update on the Sr. Living Trust. He reported that DHS has identified different methods of calculating the reported numbers. There was discussion relative to the intent of changing the payment per level of care. The conversion money doesn't necessarily assist the low-income households.
- ◆ Mark presented at the AARP legislative forum in Sioux City. Harold attended and was recognized by the Siouxland Aging Agency. The Commissioners requested to be notified when there is an opportunity to visit with constituents regarding Senior issues during a public meeting.
- ◆ Mark reported DEA is participating in the "Lighten Up Iowa" Campaign to encourage Iowans to be more active and choose healthier lifestyles. The department has three teams.

Legislative Issues

Joel Wulf reported that several Area Agency forums have been held across the state to discuss senior priorities with key legislators. The department has submitted bills as approved by the Commissioners relative to some language changes to the Older American's Act to reauthorize the

2000 language; a bill to establish and operate a dependent adult abuse service program; and the Long Term Care Omnibus bill for Assisted Living Programs and Adult Day Care Services.

Caregiver Database Presentation

Nicki Stajcar introduced Ginny Paulson, the Program Manager for the Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging (IAA) for the Family Caregiver Program. Ginny demonstrated the Iowa Family Caregiver web site and the referral intake program to the Commissioners. This intake program helps family caregivers to find needed resources for assistance. The database is set up by AAA region, county and type of services so that it is easy for the caregiver to find available resources for the assistance they need. It also provides for immediate access to a family caregiver specialist at any of the 13 AAAs.

Other

The next meeting of the Commission will be a teleconference on Friday, February 7th at 2:00 PM to approve the RSVP Administrative Rules.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Hightower seconded, the meeting be adjourned. All members present voted “aye”.

Chair

Date

Recording Secretary

Date